

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 7, 2003. Claims 1-12 were examined in the Office Action. Claims 1-12 were rejected. Claims 1, 7, and 9-11 have been amended and claims 3, 4, 6, and 8 have been canceled. New claims 13-17 have been added to provide claims of varying scope than those initially filed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and continued examination in view of the amendments and remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) as being anticipated by Emery et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,975, hereinafter 'Emery'). Applicants respectfully submit that Emery does not teach or suggest each and every feature of Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 7, and 9-11.

Claim 1

Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended claim 1 is drawn to a system for including wireless units of a wireless network in a communications network so wireline units and the wireless units operating in the communications network may call each other by using wireline extensions or wireless extensions rather than by using wireline directory numbers or wireless numbers. The system comprises, among other features, (1) a table stored within a communications element or a MSC, the table comprising a wireless entry for each of the wireless units operating in the communications network, each wireless entry including a wireless extension and a corresponding wireless number for the wireless unit, (2) the communications element being operative to store the table, access the table to obtain the corresponding wireless number in response to receipt of the wireless extension in association with a call to the wireless unit, and the communications element being operative to route the call pursuant to the corresponding wireless number, and (3) the MSC of the wireless network being functionally connected to the communications element, the MSC serving at least one or more wireless units operating in the communications network, the MSC being operative to store the table, access the table to obtain, respectively, the corresponding wireless number or wireline directory number in response to receipt of the wireless extension or wireline extension in association with a particular call to the wireless unit or to a wireline unit, and the MSC being operative to route the particular call pursuant to the corresponding wireless number or the corresponding wireline number. The

communications element can be a public branch exchange (PBX), at least one end office of the wireline network serving the wireline units operating in the communications network, the MSC, or an intelligent peripheral (IP).

As recited above, Applicants' claim 1 contemplates the communications element being a PBX, at least one end office, an MSC, or an IP whereas Emery only contemplates an ISCP storing information concerning a complete destination number. (See Emery Col. 24, lines 59-62, Col 25, lines 38-60). Because an ISCP cannot receive nor route calls, nowhere in the reference does Emery teach or suggest a communications element capable of storing the table, accessing the table, and routing the calls. Thus, Emery does not teach, disclose, or suggest (1) a table stored within a PBX, at least one end office, an MSC, or an IP. Emery also does not teach or suggest (2) the PBX, the at least one end office, or the IP being operative to store the table, access the table to obtain the corresponding wireless number in response to receipt of the wireless extension, and route the call pursuant to the corresponding wireless number and (C) the MSC being operative to store the table, access the table, and route the particular call pursuant to the corresponding wireless number or the corresponding wireline number as recited in amended claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by and is thus allowable over Emery.

Claim 7

Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended claim 7 is drawn to a communications element accessible for use in providing an extension service to the wireline units and the wireless units operating in the communications network. The communications element comprises, among other features, (1) a table for use in providing the extension service to the wireline units and the wireless units where the table is stored within a private branch exchange (PBX), an end office, a mobile switching center (MSC), and/or an intelligent peripheral (IP). As described above with respect to amended claim 1, Emery only contemplates storing information concerning complete telephone numbers in an ISCP. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Emery does not teach or suggest a table for use in providing the extension service to the wireline units and the wireless units and stored within a private branch exchange (PBX), an end office, a mobile switching center (MSC), and/or an intelligent peripheral (IP). Therefore, Applicants' amended claim 7 is also allowable over Emery.

Claim 9

Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended claim 9 is drawn to a table for use in extending an extension service to qualified wireless units so that qualified wireline units and the qualified wireless units may call each other by using wireline extensions or wireless extensions rather than wireline directory numbers or wireless numbers. The table comprises, among other features, (1) a wireline entry for each qualified wireline unit, each wireline entry including a wireline extension and a corresponding wireline directory number and (2) a wireless entry for each qualified wireless unit, each wireless entry including a wireless extension and a corresponding wireless number. The table is stored within an end office and/or a mobile switching center (MSC). As described above with respect to amended claims 1 and 7, Emery only contemplates storing information concerning complete telephone numbers in an ISCP. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Emery does not teach or suggest a table comprising, among other features, a corresponding wireline directory number and a corresponding wireless number. Therefore, Applicants' amended claim 9 is also allowable over Emery.

Claim 10

Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended claim 10 is drawn to a method to include a wireless unit of a wireless network in a communications network so a call from a wireline unit operating in the communications network to a wireless unit operating in the communications network may be made by the wireline unit using a wireless extension of the wireless unit rather than a wireless number of the wireless unit. The method comprises, among other features, (1) causing the table to include an entry for the wireless unit, the entry including the wireless extension of the wireless unit and a corresponding wireless number of the wireless unit where the table is stored within a private branch exchange (PBX), an end office, a mobile switching center (MSC), and/or an intelligent peripheral (IP). As described above with respect to amended claims 1, 7, and 9, Emery only contemplates storing information concerning complete telephone numbers in an ISCP. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Emery does not teach or suggest causing the table to include a corresponding wireless number of the wireless unit where the table is stored within a PBX, an end office, a MSC, and/or an IP. Therefore, Applicants' amended claim 10 is also allowable over Emery.

Claim 11

Applicants' claimed invention as recited in amended claim 11 is drawn to a method to provide a wireless unit with extension service whereby the wireless unit may call the wireline unit by using an extension for the wireline unit rather than a directory number for the wireline unit. The method comprises, among other features, (1) causing a table to include an entry for the wireline unit, the entry including the extension of the wireline unit and a corresponding directory number of the wireline unit and (2) using the extension to obtain the corresponding directory number for the wireline unit by checking the entry for the wireline unit in the table where the table is stored within a private branch exchange (PBX), an end office, a mobile switching center (MSC), and/or an intelligent peripheral (IP). As described above with respect to amended claims 1, 7, 9, and 10, Emery only contemplates storing information concerning complete telephone numbers in an ISCP. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Emery does not teach or suggest causing the table to include a corresponding directory number of the wireline unit and using an extension to obtain the corresponding directory number for the wireline unit by checking the entry for the wireline unit in the table stored within a PBX, an end office, a MSC, and/or an IP. Therefore, Applicants' amended claim 11 is also allowable over Emery.

Dependent Claims

At least because claims 2, 5, and 12 inherit the language of amended claims 1 and 11 respectively, claims 2, 5, and 12 are also allowable over Emery.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C §103

Claim 6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Emery in view of Shaffer (US 6,130,935). Both of claims 6 and 8 have been canceled.

New Claims

New claims 13-17 have been added to provide claims of varying scope from those initially filed. Applicants respectfully assert that these new claims are also allowable over the cited references. For example, new claim 13 recites a distributed scheme comprising the table stored for access at each end office and each MSC that implements the communications network wherein the end office or MSC receiving a call directed to an extension is operative to access the

table, convert the extension to a corresponding directory number or wireless number, and route the call pursuant to the corresponding directory number or wireless number. None of the cited references teach such a distributed scheme for table storage.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 15, 2004

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